

Bennett No inclination, with either, to sit too long over mere food and drink, no perilous questionings from the merely sensual man, no insistent calls from the purely aesthetic By unnerving response to the simply beautiful they can rarely have been troubled, when the morning sun poured in at the windows of Grosvenor Road, making the water dance and the sky sparkle, they felt little nausea of the desk, no call to the open road These immunities must have helped to make discipline lighter and easier Yet no reader of *My Apprenticeship* can doubt that, in her case, some sacrifice was involved in accepting it, even as an act of deliberate choice

Part of the price that must be paid in accepting and sustaining a routine may be more obvious to their friends than to themselves The things they have not got, which made it relatively easy for them to do it, have been cleverly pointed out again and again Countless caricaturists, in word and in line, have made them, for our generation, the classic exemplars of a monumental industry purchased at the price of human charm Although this cleverness is really too easy, its excuse is that they share certain common peculiarities, and that, as a couple, especially in days when they were younger, there was something about their aspect and their approach that can only be called funny This element leapt to life for the reader of a rhapsodic description, which must have deeply dis-

pleased them, made in the heyday of the Poor
Law campaign, by Alfred Ollivant He spoke there of "
The Darkling
Lady and her little Lord " The visible contrast
between
Beatrice, handsome, flashing, dominant,
aggressively vital,
swift and masterful in gesture both of mind
and body
an eagle among human birds, and Sidney, tiny,
unassuming,
soft, husky and slightly lisping in utterance,
glasses never
secure on nose, yet never taken off, a mere
modest sparrow—
this contrast could seem absurd, did not
the observer